Elections
British Columbia

Report of the Chief Electoral Officer on the Alberni By-Election November 19, 1988

Statement of Votes

89-03901/

Province of
British Columbia

Ministry of Provincial
Secretary and
Government Services
Elections
British Columbia

Chief Electoral Office
421 Menzies Street
Victoria
British Columbia
V8V 1X4
Telephone: (604) 387-5305

April, 1989

Speaker of the Legislative Assembly
Room 207
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, British Columbia
V8V 1X4

Dear Mr. Speaker:

I have the honour to submit the Report of the Chief Electoral Officer concerning the November 19, 1988 by-election in the Electoral District of **Alberni.**

This Report is prepared pursuant to Section 5.(9) of the **Election Act.**

Respectfully submitted,

Harry M. Goldberg
Chief Electoral Officer and
Registrar General of Voters
Elections British Columbia

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Summary of By-Election 1

Results of By-Election

-Poll by Poll 3
-by Polling Place 5

Maps

-Polling Place Locations 6
-Electoral District 7

Expenditures

-Candidates and Political Parties 9

-Election Administration 10

Political Parties

-Standing of 11

SUMMARY OF BY-ELECTION

The resignation of Robert E. Skelly on May 10, 1988, resulted in a vacancy in the Electoral District of Alberni.

A pre-by-election registration of voters was performed within the Alberni electoral district which concluded with a Writ day voters list of 18,476 registered voters. This figure compared favourably with the number of names on the voters list as of Writ day for the 1986, Provincial General Election (September 24) which had 16,815 voters registered. The registration program which commenced on August 19, was performed with the support of store-front registration throughout the electoral district. Public information on the voter registration program was simultaneously advertised on radio and in the newspapers for the duration.

Included with the activities of a pre-by-election registration of voters, was a comparison of the voters list with names in the telephone directory in order to identify prospective voters who were not registered.Telephone calls were made to the people identified and they were advised of how they could become registered. Five per cent of those contacted indicated no interest in becoming registered voters.

During the period September 19th through the 23rd, the B.C.G.E.U. picketed Government offices including the offices of the Port Alberni Government Agent. Through the co-operation of union and non-union employees, there was no suggestion of interference with the voter registration process.

On October 22, 1988 pursuant to Order-in-Council 1968, a Writ of Election was issued by the Chief Electoral Officer to **Johannes J. Ruissen**, Returning Officer for Alberni. The Writ ordered that an election be held in the Electoral District of Alberni on November 19, 1988.

November 7 was designated as the day for the **nomination of candidates**, early voting in the office of the Returning Officer commenced on November 8 and three days of **advance polling** began on November 9, 1988. **Two registration periods** were available to unregistered voters in order to allow them to have their names added to the voters list during the 29 day interval. These periods were October 22 - 31, and November 12 - 15, inclusive. A total of 295 voters registered during these periods concluding with an Election Day voters list of 18,771 names.

During the three day Section 80 registration period, there were several complaints from residents who recently moved into the Electoral District and were unable to register because they were already on a voters list in another Electoral District. These residents were of the opinion that during by-elections, the relevant Section of the Election Act which prohibits the registration of applicants who are registered elsewhere in the Province, should not apply. It should be noted, however, that residents who are registered elsewhere at the time a Writ of election is issued, are eligible to change their registration during the ten day period immediately following issue of the Writ of election.

With the Alberni by-election scheduled for Saturday, November 19, 1988, several additional problems of a substantial nature were encountered by Provincial election officials. The problems emerged because Municipal elections were held on the same date and the Federal election, also established earlier, was set for the following Monday, November 21, 1988. Polling places historically used during Provincial elections were booked by either Municipal authorities or private individuals and new locations had to be located on short notice by Provincial election personnel. This problem also caused confusion on the part of the electorate with respect to locating the appropriate polling place for each of the electoral jurisdictions. Poll officials previously employed during Provincial elections were already engaged by and committed to the Municipal election as well as the advance polls for the Federal election. Thus there was considerable difficulty in attracting fully experienced personnel. In addition, the telephone number of the Provincial Returning Officer was frequently given to callers seeking information on the Federal election. This resulted with the Provincial Returning Officer (Elections British Columbia) being deluged by telephone calls of a Federal, rather than a Provincial, election nature.

SUMMARY OF BY-ELECTION cont'd.

It is clear that the concurrent elections resulted in considerable confusion and lack of understanding on the part of many people. In some cases this confusion resulted in unnecessary emotional upset by the electorate which may have contributed to a lower than anticipated voter turnout on election day. The voter turnout of 60.05% compares unfavourably with the turnout during the 1986, Provincial general election in Alberni which was 85.80%.

I strongly recommend that wherever possible, future Provincial general elections, by-elections and/or plebiscites be scheduled at a time when other major elections are not occurring.

The official results were announced by the Returning Officer on November 24, 1988, and 11,273 of the 18,771 registered voters exercised their franchise. **Mr. Gerard A. Janssen**, endorsed by the New Democratic Party, was declared duly elected as the member representing the Electoral District of Alberni.

On receipt of the Writ of Election and the Certificate of Election from the Returning Officer on Return day, December 5, 1988, the Chief Electoral Officer confirmed to the Deputy Provincial Secretary, the election of **Mr. Janssen** to the Provincial Legislature.

SUMMARY OF RESULTS - POLL BY POLL

Polling Division		Dryden S.C.	Janssen N.D.P.	Bonfield Lib.	Total Valid	Rejected Votes	Registered Voters
	EARLY VOTING	0	7	0	7	0	
	ADVANCE	128	248	84	460	1	
1	Hot Springs Cove	0	12	1	13	0	41
2	Ahousat	3	16	1	20	0	191
3	Beddingfield Bay Camp	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	Cypre River Camp	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	Tofino	28	63	27	118	0	253
6	Tofino	82	99	29	210	5	355
7	Wickaninnish Bay	0	4	0	4	0	44
8	Long Beach	18	43	5	66	0	138
9	Ucluelet	40	58	8	106	0	209
10	Ucluelet	57	83	16	156	2	332
11	Ucluelet	78	87	18	183	0	343
12	Port Albion	9	38	5	52	0	131
13	Great Central Lake	3	19	2	24	0	55
14	Beaver Creek	61	96	34	191	3	329
15	Beaver Creek	79	129	20	228	3	369
16	Beaver Creek	47	138	27	212	0	357
17	Beaver Creek	64	121	23	208	3	370
18	Beaver Creek	58	129	18	205	0	359
19	Beaver Creek	48	150	26	224	0	363
20	Cherry Creek	38	146	36	220	7	351
21	Cherry Creek	56	97	42	195	1	345
22	Cherry Creek	49	137	28	214	2	370
23	Cherry Creek	54	105	28	187	3	365
24	Sproat Lake	31	121	10	162	2	280
25	Sproat Lake	78	111	33	222	1	349
26	Sproat Lake	64	81	42	187	3	294
27	Sproat Lake	81	118	46	245	2	402
28	Port Alberni North	58	145	23	226	0	376
29	Port Alberni North	50	140	33	223	0	394
30	Port Alberni North	61	127	44	232	8	389
31	Port Alberni North	77	142	42	261	1	395
32	Port Alberni North	70	129	37	236	0	397
33	Port Alberni North	111	131	36	278	2	415
34	Port Alberni North	72	116	50	238	3	349
35	Port Alberni North	43	153	17	213	3	363
36	Port Alberni North	59	104	30	193	5	375
37	Port Alberni Central	55	108	27	190	1	313
38	Port Alberni Central	44	87	10	141	1	391
39	Port Alberni Central	48	123	31	202	4	368
40	Port Alberni Central	58	124	26	208	4	380
41	Port Alberni Central	54	158	28	240	2	357
42	Port Alberni Central	62	96	35	193	1	386
43	Port Alberni Central	29	89	19	137	7	336
44	Port Alberni Central	41	115	20	176	3	332
45	Port Alberni Central	62	110	34	206	3	341
46	Port Alberni Central	65	93	26	184	7	331
47	Port Alberni Central	41	132	20	193	5	356
48	Port Alberni Central	31	125	23	179	1	393
49	Port Alberni South	38	100	27	165	9	328
50	Port Alberni South	66	102	35	203	3	352
51	Port Alberni South	47	111	46	204	2	330
52	Port Alberni South	43	104	41	188	2	339
53	Port Alberni South	56	134	19	209	1	340
54	Port Alberni South	26	104	28	158	2	301
55	Port Alberni South	57	113	20	190	3	355
56	Port Alberni South	46	126	30	202	5	324
57	Port Alberni South	71	114	50	235	1	365
58	Port Alberni South	74	113	35	222	2	348
59	Port Alberni South	54	112	43	209	4	306
60	Franklin River	7	6	0	13	0	15
61	Kildonan	0	3	2	5	0	23

SUMMARY OF RESULTS - POLL BY POLL cont'd.

Polling Division	Dryden S.C.	Janssen N.D.P.	Bonfield Lib.	Total Valid	Rejected Votes	Registered Voters
62 Bamfield	31	37	19	87	0	238
63 Nitinat	3	11	3	17	0	75
Total Ordinary	**3064**	**6293**	**1618**	**10975**	**133**	**18771**
Section 80.1	0	3	0	3	0	
Absentee votes (Sec 117)	29	93	20	142	3	
Absentee votes (Sec 118.1)	3	12	2	17	0	
Grand Totals	**3096**	**6401**	**1640**	**11137**	**136**	**18771**
Percentage of valid votes	27.80%	57.48%	14.73%	100%		

REGISTERED VOTERS WHO VOTED: 11,273 (60.05% of Registered Voters)

SUMMARY

Ordinary Votes . . . . . 98.55% of Total Valid Votes
Section 80.1 Votes . . . . . 0.03% of Total Valid Votes
Section 117 Votes . . . . . 1.28% of Total Valid Votes
Section 118.1 Votes . . . . . 0.15% of Total Valid Votes
Rejected Votes: . . . . . 1.21% of Total Votes considered

Ballot Envelopes Unopened 62

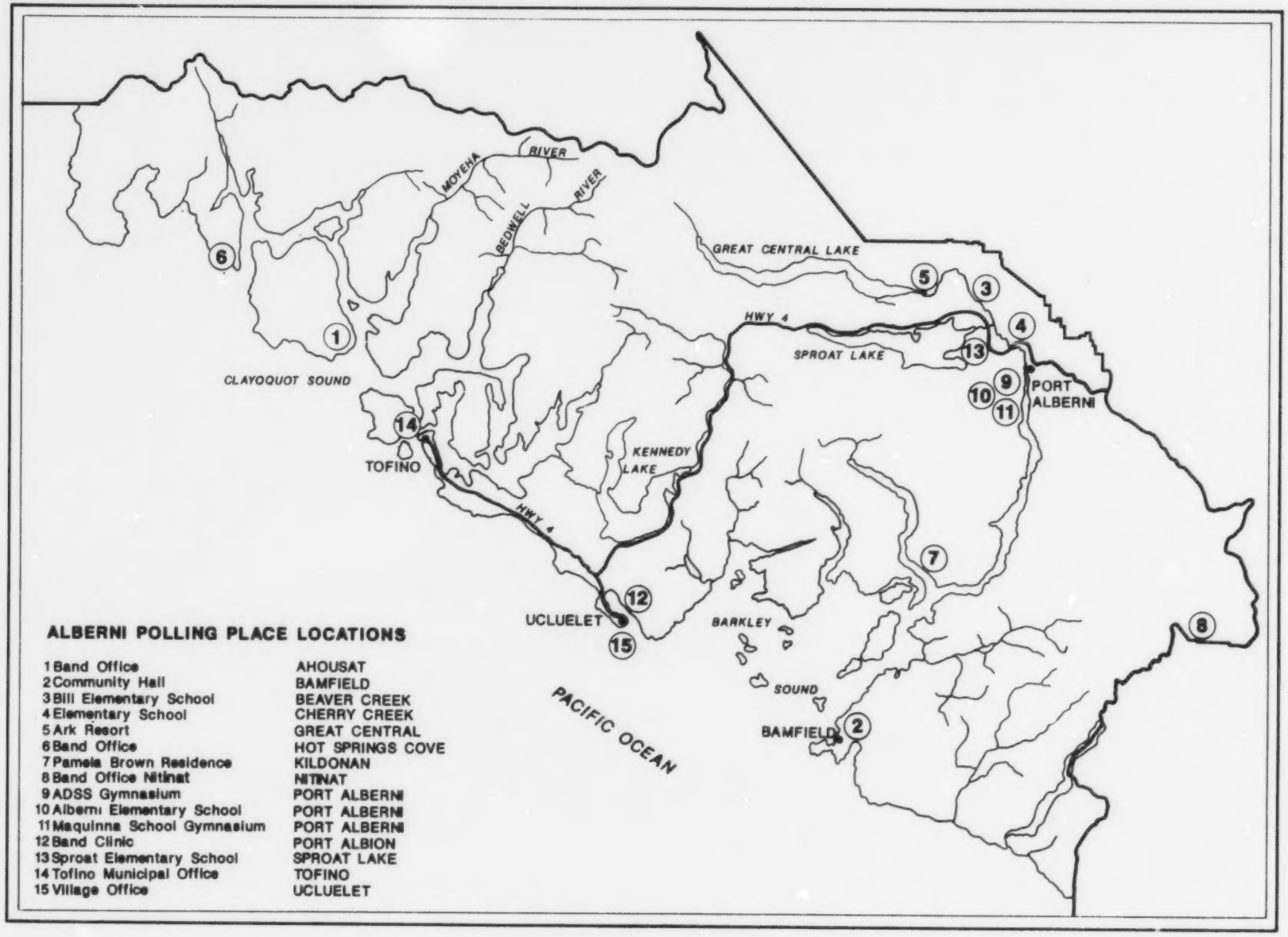
Candidate Elected: **Gerard A. Janssen (New Democrat [N.D.P.])**

SUMMARY OF RESULTS BY POLLING PLACE

POLLING PLACE	Dryden SC	Janssen NDP	Bonfield Lib	Total Valid	Rejected
Early	0	7	0	7	0
Advance	128	248	84	460	1
No. 1 Band Office, Ahousat	3	16	1	20	0
No. 2 Community Hall,Barnfield	31	37	19	87	0
No. 3 Bill Elementary School, Beaver Creek	357	763	148	1268	9
No. 4 Cherry Creek Elementary School	197	485	134	816	13
No. 5 Ark Resort, Great Central	3	19	2	24	0
No. 6 Band Office, Hot Springs Cove	0	12	1	13	0
No. 7 Pamela Brown Residence, Kildonan	0	3	2	5	0
No. 8 Band Office, Nitinat	3	11	3	17	0
No. 9 ADSS Gymnasium, Port Alberni	590	1360	299	2249	39
No. 10 Alberni Elementary School, Port Alberni	601	1187	312	2100	22
No. 11 Maquinna School Gym, Port Alberni	585	1239	374	2198	34
No. 12 Band Clinic, Port Albion	9	38	5	52	0
No. 13 Sproat Elementary School, Sproat Lake	254	431	131	816	8
No. 14 Tofino Municipal Office	110	166	56	332	5
No. 15 Ucluelet Village Office	193	271	47	511	2
Total Ordinary Votes	**3064**	**6293**	**1618**	**10975**	**133**
Section 80.1	0	3	0	3	0
Absentee votes (Sec 117)	29	93	20	142	3
Absentee votes (Sec 118.1)	3	12	2	17	0
Grand Totals	**3096**	**6401**	**1640**	**11137**	**136**
Percentage of Valid Votes	27.80%	57.48%	14.73%	100%	---

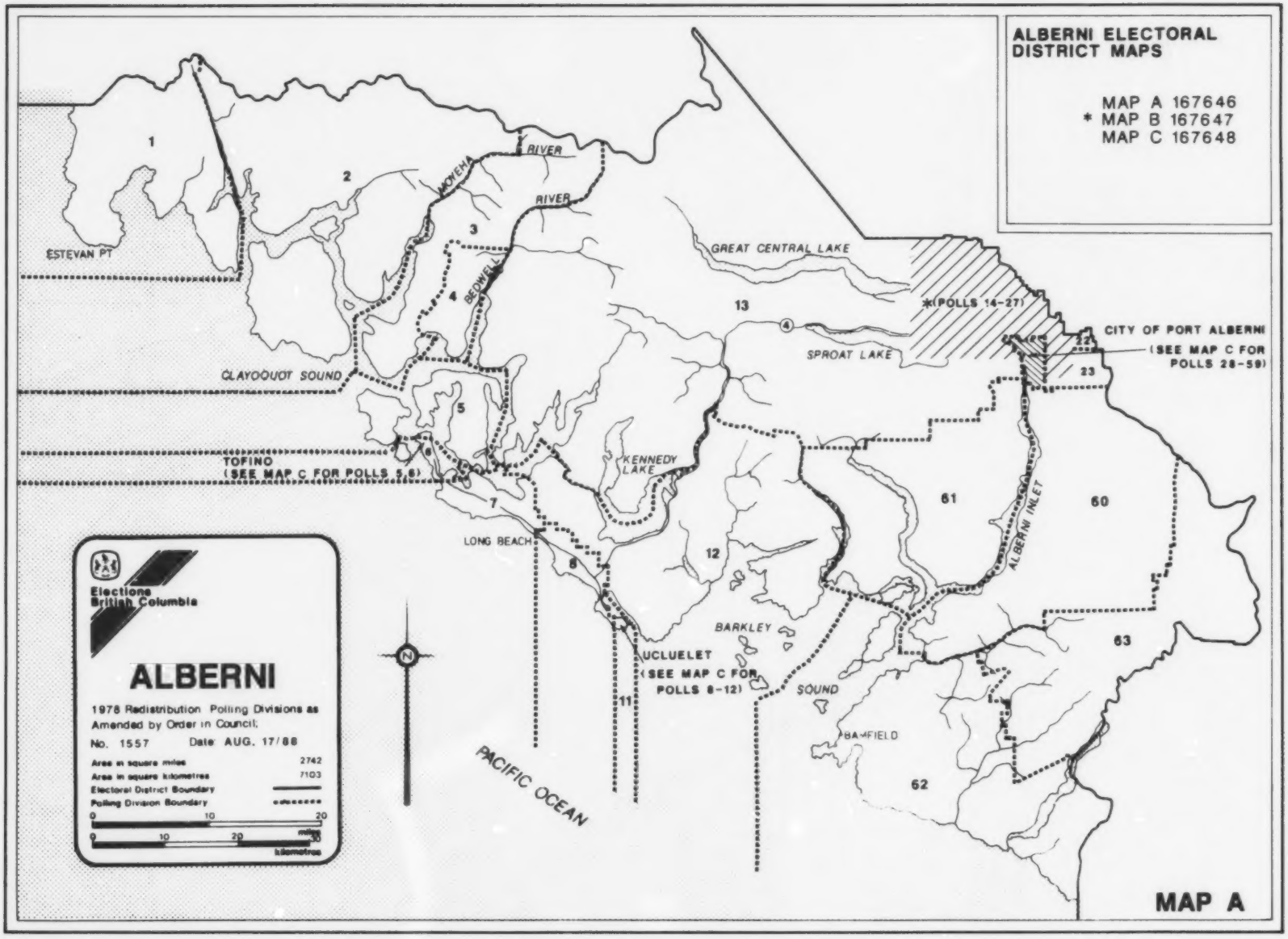
SUMMARY

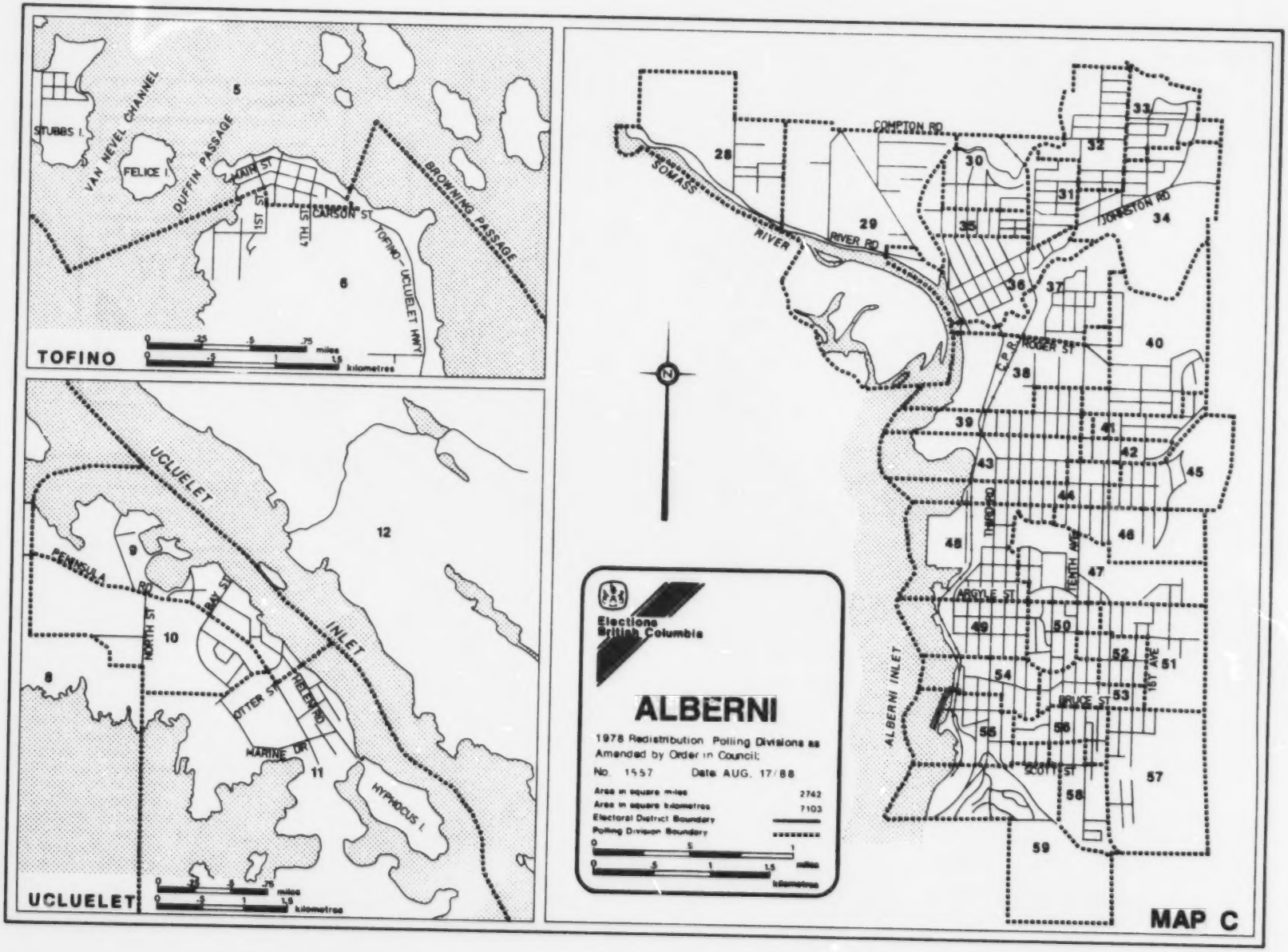
Registered Voters:	18,771
Total Votes:	11,273
% Turnout:	60.05%
Rejected Ballots	136



ALBERNI POLLING PLACE LOCATIONS

1 Band Office	AHOUSAT
2 Community Hall	BAMFIELD
3 Bill Elementary School	BEAVER CREEK
4 Elementary School	CHERRY CREEK
5 Ark Resort	GREAT CENTRAL
6 Band Office	HOT SPRINGS COVE
7 Pamela Brown Residence	KILDONAN
8 Band Office Nitinat	NITINAT
9 ADSS Gymnasium	PORT ALBERNI
10 Alberni Elementary School	PORT ALBERNI
11 Maquinna School Gymnasium	PORT ALBERNI
12 Band Clinic	PORT ALBION
13 Sproat Elementary School	SPROAT LAKE
14 Tofino Municipal Office	TOFINO
15 Village Office	UCLUELET


ALBERNI ELECTORAL DISTRICT MAPS
MAP A 167646
* MAP B 167647
MAP C 167648
ESTEVAN PT
CLAYOQUOT SOUND
TOFINO
(SEE MAP C FOR POLLS 5-8)
MOYEHA RIVER
BEDWELL RIVER
GREAT CENTRAL LAKE
*(POLLS 14-27)
CITY OF PORT ALBERNI
(SEE MAP C FOR POLLS 28-59)
SPROAT LAKE
KENNEDY LAKE
LONG BEACH
ALBERNI INLET
BARKLEY SOUND
UCLUELET
(SEE MAP C FOR POLLS 8-12)
BAMFIELD
PACIFIC OCEAN
Elections British Columbia
ALBERNI
1978 Redistribution Polling Divisions as Amended by Order in Council
No. 1557 Date AUG. 17/88
Area in square miles 2742
Area in square kilometres 7103
Electoral District Boundary
Polling Division Boundary
miles
kilometres
MAP A


TOFINO
STUBBS I.
VAN NEVEL CHANNEL
FELICE I.
DUFFIN PASSAGE
MAIN ST
1ST ST
4TH ST
CANSON ST
TOFINO - UCLUELET HWY
BROWNING PASSAGE
5
6
0 .25 .5 .75 miles
0 .5 1 1.5 kilometres
UCLUELET
PENINSULA RD
NORTH ST
BAY ST
OTTER ST
HELEN RD
MARINE DR
UCLUELET INLET
HYPHOCUS I.
8
9
10
11
12
0 .25 .5 .75 miles
0 .5 1 1.5 kilometres
COMPTON RD
SOMASS RIVER
RIVER RD
JOHNSTON RD
ROGER ST
C.P.R.
ARGYLE ST
BRUCE ST
SCOTT ST
ALBERNI INLET
1ST AVE
10TH AVE
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
N
Elections British Columbia
ALBERNI
1978 Redistribution Polling Divisions as Amended by Order in Council:
No. 1557 Date AUG. 17/88
Area in square miles 2742
Area in square kilometres 7103
Electoral District Boundary
Polling Division Boundary
0 5
0 .5 1 1.5 miles
kilometres
MAP C

EXPENDITURES

CANDIDATES

DRYDEN, George S. (S.C.)	37,886.98
JANSSEN, Gerard A. (N.D.P.)	12,710.66
BONFIELD, Shirley M. (Lib.)	12,706.68
Total	**$ 63,304.32**

POLITICAL PARTIES

Social Credit	7,985.10
New Democrat (N.D.P.)	15,610.07
The Liberal Party of Canada	3,267.14
Total	**$ 26,862.31**

TOTAL ELECTION EXPENSES OF THE CANDIDATES AND THEIR PARTIES:	**$ 90,166.63**

EXPENDITURES-ELECTION ADMINISTRATION

Returning Officer

Fees		6,438.55
Travel		341.00
Office Rental		2,383.46
Office Expenses		2,092.37
Printing		694.40
Office Staff Salaries		3,657.59
Advertising		311.80
Postage and Courier		195.12
Telephone		1,412.58
	Total $	**17,526.87**

Election Clerk

Fees		4,828.91
Travel		681.38
	Total $	**5,510.29**

Poll Costs

Advance Poll Officials		1,920.00
Regular Poll Officials		16,120.00
Training		2,175.00
Poll Rental		2,754.00
	Total $	**22,969.00**

Registrar of Voters and Regional Coordinator

Registration/Collection Centre Rental		100.00
Registration Clerks' Fees and Expenses		7,081.14
Registration Assistants' Salaries		17,162.82
Regular Employees' Overtime and Substitution		396.43
Telephone		218.80
	Total $	**24,959.19**

Chief Electoral Office

Advertising		44,049.87
Travel		425.64
Printing		10,156.78
Postage & Courier		14,889.05
Overtime		223.54
Data Processing		37,207.03
	Total $	**106,951.91**

Grand Total	**$ 177,917.26**
Cost per Registered Voter *	$ 9.47

* In By-elections, there are certain areas of expenditure such as office rental and expenses, telephone rental, selected salaries and advertising costs that remain constant regardless of the number of registered voters in the electoral district being reported. The average cost of $9.47 per registered voter also includes the costs of the voter registration program performed prior to the issue of the By-election Writ.

STANDING OF POLITICAL PARTIES*

Social Credit	44
New Democrat	22
Independent	1
Vacant	2
Total Seats	69

* as of December 5, 1988